

LEPC/DES/E-9-1-1
MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 7:30 am
Columbus Fire Hall
944 E Pike Ave, Columbus, MT 59019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Randy Smith, Travis Hansen, Steph Ray, Kevin Mitchum, Kevin Ray, Mark Schreiner, Brad Kimble, Bill Pronovost, Gaylen Daughtery, Terry Brumfield, Natasha Sailer, Darla Currey Colter, Nick Jacobs, Richard Cowger, Charlie Hanson, Shane Warehime

I. Call to Order

- a. Pledge to the Flag
- b. Introductions
- c. Approval of minutes – none

II. DES

- a. Kevin Mitchum. Tailing pond exercise May 12th at fire station 8-12. Lunch provided. Will work with public health on COVID protocol. A sign-up sheet was routed for the table top exercise. There will be a Hertzler impoundment tour on Tuesday afternoon. A sign-up sheet was routed for the impoundment tour.

III. PDM Update

- a. Bill Pronovost. Continued work on the Hazard Mitigation plan. Next meeting is Tuesday, April 13th, 2021. Dec 31, 2021 is the scheduled completion date; however, a draft will be available in October for multi-agency review. DES/GIS hires have been made. Brendan Wiltshire has been hired for the GIS position and Maureen Wiltshire has been hired for the DES position. The projected start date for both hires is May 10th, 2021.

IV. E911

- a. Sheriff Kem. DES hire does not have a lot of experience with 911, however, is enthusiastic and willing to learn. He has contracted with Kevin Olson who has done previous work as a 911 Consultant to help train Maureen. Kevin will also be doing a life expectancy of current equipment. There is a plan to replace radio equipment in dispatch after the condition analysis and space analysis.

V. LEPC

- a. Appointment of secretary. Stephanie Ray was appointed as the LEPC secretary.

VI. PHEP

- a. Natasha provided an update on the Vaccination program. They are ahead of the governor's order. To date, 1864 shots have been delivered either with 1 or 2 doses. This

represents a 55% vaccination rate in county. There are currently five active cases. Additional updates included watching for water runoff, calving, and the necessity to wash hands frequently. Natasha is working with Josh on the foodborne and waterborne illness plan. Darla will start coming to the meetings and delivering public health messages.

VII. Road names – none

VIII. Communications

- a. Tom Dunn is meeting with Bill and they are going to the Absarokee repeater site (depending on road conditions). There is a plan to install a 7.5 KW generator. There is \$5000 budgeted for this project. The generator is expected to cost \$3K with the remaining funds to assist with the install.

IX. Fire Warden

- a. Chief Cowger. Fire season is already active, with active fires in the Northern Rockies. Other active areas include North Dakota, Eastern Montana, and South Dakota. DNRC hired Jeff Brown to replace Derek Yeager's position as the Fire Management Officer. Asst. Fire Management officer is Mike Boettcher out of the Lincoln DNRC Unit... Derek Yeager is now the 911 center manager for Yellowstone Co. Jeff Bauman is the area manager. DNRC will station a state helicopter in Billings for season fire season.
- b. Bill and Nick will be attending the Absarokee Fire Board Meeting Thursday, April 8th to discuss radio users mutual aid contract discussion.

X. Other

- a. Kevin Mitchum. Smelter update. There has been a lot of contractor work at the site. Currently construction includes a new concentrated handling facility. This will modify operations by switching to side dumps which will reduce some traffic. Other construction includes working on rebuilding electric furnaces. This project should be complete within 2 months.
- b. Mark provided an update on the Johnson Bridge closure starting today through April 16th. In July there will be bridge replacement that will close the bridge through November. On the north Stillwater there will be ditch work starting Be aware of alternate routes if traveling in these areas. Suggested using Miller bridge and Spring Creek bridge if in these areas.
- c. Chief Cowger mentioned the law enforcement event that recently closed the interstate. This was a very labor-intensive event that required multi—jurisdictional cooperation. Sheriff Kem mentioned that a Community messaging board would be nice to help route traffic through the community during these events.

XI. Meeting Adjourn: 7:53 am